

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Office Action of August 7, 2003 has been received and carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-12 and 16-26 are currently pending.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-12 and 16-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Related Art Figure 2 (ARA) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,361,150 to Noguchi. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 1 and 16 recite a combination of elements, including for example "patterning the black matrix so as to form an identification mark". Noguchi fails to teach or suggest at least this feature of the claimed invention. Therefore, Noguchi fails to teach or suggest, either singly or in combination with ARA, at least this feature as recited in claims 1 and 16.

For example, Noguchi discloses the formation of an identification marking portion 4 having a character pad 13 in its specification at column 4, lines 9-23; column 4, lines 48-64; and column 5, line 60 through column 6, line 8. However, Noguchi does not teach, disclose, or suggest in any way "patterning the black matrix so as to form an identification mark" as required by claims 1 and 16.

Furthermore, Noguchi discusses that "the lower metal film 7 which provides a gate wiring for the thin film transistors formed on the surface of the glass substrate 1 is provided with a character array pattern" (Noguchi, column 2, lines 20-23). Thus, Noguchi forms an identification mark using the metal film, not by patterning the black matrix" as required by claim

1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1 and 16 are allowable over ARA in combination with Noguchi.


In addition, claims 2-12 and 17-26 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on amended claims 1 and 16, which are believed to be allowable.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7500.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: October 31, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Rebecca Goldman Rudich
Registration No.: 41,786
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorney for Applicant

1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 1 and 16 are allowable over ARA in combination with Noguchi.

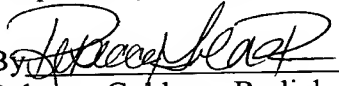
In addition, claims 2-12 and 17-26 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on amended claims 1 and 16, which are believed to be allowable.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7500.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: October 31, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Rebecca Goldman Rudich

Registration No.: 41,786
MCKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorney for Applicant